

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 522

By Black

A RESOLUTION to honor the Tennessee Senior Stars softball team.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pride in honoring those athletic teams whose performances on the field of play have brought them national recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Senior Stars 65-and-over women's softball team, which recently won its fourth consecutive United States Senior Softball Association World Championship, is one such team; and

WHEREAS, the Stars, a team composed of women between the ages of 65 and 70 hailing from Davidson, Sumner, Cheatham, Wilson, and Robertson Counties, completed the championship tournament in dominating fashion, winning all five games and capturing the title with an impressive 17-8 win over the Florida Spirit; and

WHEREAS, after defeating the 55-and-over team from the Knoxville-Oak Ridge area by the score of 25-18 to capture the gold medal in the Senior State Championships, held in Clarksville in August, the Stars pitted themselves against the nation's best players in the USSSA World Championship, which was held in Gallatin on September 19-21; and

WHEREAS, the Stars, led by Head Coach Renee Page of Mt. Juliet and Assistant Coach Jerri Turner of Nashville, are a strong and talented team, as evidenced by their impressive 20-0 record during the last four World Championship tournaments. The Tennessee Senior Stars are: Mary Arndt of Nashville, Frances Haggard of Nashville, Joyce Stevenson of Nashville, Ellen Preuett of Gladeville, Helen Armstrong of Joelton, Becky Troyani of Joelton, Donna Hackney of Mt. Juliet, Judy Lee Schreiber of Hendersonville, Judy Osborne of Hendersonville, Shirley Grizzle of Gallatin, Lois Smith of Springfield, Esther Goslin of

Westmoreland, Goldie Hammock of Westmoreland, Jenny Yearwood of Goodlettsville, Peggy Lewis of Hermitage, Carol Robinson of Lebanon, Marzee Skelton of Chapmansboro, and Patty Cox, and Rita Gawarecki of Louisville, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, several Stars gained recognition from tournament officials during the World Championship, including Jerri Turner, whose incredible offensive talent garnered her Most Valuable Player and Best Offensive Player honors; she posted gargantuan numbers throughout the tournament, including an .804 batting average, fifteen runs batted in, and four doubles, and finished this overwhelming performance with a 285-foot, three-run home run in the finals; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Grizzle, Helen Armstrong, Judy Osborne, Mary Arndt, Patty Cox, Rita Gawarecki, and Jerri Turner were named to the All-World Team, and Renee Page was chosen as the All-World Coach; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Senior Stars have established themselves as a monolithic force in the world of USSSA softball; they are a juggernaut of talent, poise, ability, teamwork, and sportsmanship; and

WHEREAS, these spectacular players have proven themselves time and again on the field of play as individuals who bring pride and honor to the State of Tennessee, and they should be properly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate the Tennessee Senior Stars 65-and-over women's softball team on their victories in the Senior State Championships and the United States Senior Softball Association World Championship and offer our best wishes for their continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.